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One Hundred Sixteenth Congress
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
www.foreignaffairs.house.gov

May 28, 2020

Mary Elizabeth Taylor
Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St. NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Assistant Secretary Taylor:

Thank you for your letter this evening regarding the investigation by the Foreign Affairs Committee, the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (the “Three Committees”) into the firing of State Department Inspector General Steve A. Linick. This letter serves as an interim response.

I appreciate the Department’s willingness to work with the Three Committees in the conduct of our constitutionally-mandated oversight of this matter. I also appreciate the Department’s stated commitment to engaging in a good-faith effort to accommodate the Three Committees’ requests, and I will have to consult with Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Menendez about how to hear from Mr. Bulatao in the most appropriate way to advance the committees’ investigation.

I will confer with Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Menendez about your letter, and hope to provide you with a more substantive response in the near future. We look forward to further engagement with the Department on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eliot L. Engel".

ELIOT L. ENGEL
Chairman